

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-15. (Cancelled)

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16. (Previously Presented) A method of locating a terminal in a telecommunications system including a core network and an access network, the access network including a first network controller configured to at least temporarily act as a serving network controller of the terminal and to report a location of the terminal to the core network, and a second network controller configured to at least temporarily act as a drift network controller of the terminal and to maintain a connection with the terminal, the method comprising:

transmitting location information of the terminal to the core network based on a first set of predetermined criteria, the location information being indicative of the terminal location;

transmitting location information to the second network controller in response to the first set of predetermined criteria;

transmitting the location information to the first network controller;

reporting the location information to the core network;

transforming the location information into transformed location information based on a second set of predetermined criteria; and

transmitting the transformed information to the core network in response to the second set of predetermined criteria.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
terminating a number of connection-oriented connections with the terminal; and
reporting a real or correct location of the terminal to the core network in response to terminating a last connection-oriented connection with the terminal.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the terminal has an active set including the terminal location when the location of the terminal exists and is controlled by the first network controller.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the location information indicates a virtual location when the active set of the terminal excludes a location controlled by the first network controller.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the location information indicates a current terminal location controlled by the first network controller and the active set of the terminal includes the current terminal location.

B1 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the location information indicates a terminal location which is at least partially controlled by the first network controller.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
receiving location information using the terminal, wherein the location information indicates a terminal location from which the terminal last received location information.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the location information indicates a terminal location controlled by the second network controller and the active set excludes a location controlled by the first network controller.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the location information indicates at least one cell identifier, a routing area identifier or a location area identifier.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the first set of criteria comprises a change of the terminal location, activation of a Packet Data Protocol context for the terminal and expiry of a recurring period of time.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the first and the second network controllers are associated with a first and a second switching element, respectively,

each of the first and second switching elements being configured to maintain subscription information related to the terminal; and

the first switching element being configured to receive location information and to send location information to the second switching element without a separate request.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the location information comprises at least a Packet Data Protocol of the terminal, a Mobility Management context, a Packet Data Protocol of the terminal and a Mobility Management context.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the first and the second switching elements are a support node, a switching center or a support node and a switching center.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the support node is a substantially serving General Packet Radio Service support node and the switching center is a Mobile services Switching Center.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the terminal is a mobile station, the access network is a radio access network and the network controller is a radio network controller.

31. (Previously Presented) A network controller for supporting a terminal in a telecommunications system including a core network and an access network, the network controller comprising:

a reporting module configured to report location information of the terminal to the core network; and

a transforming module configured to transform the location information into transformed location information,

wherein the transforming module transforms the location information into transformed location information prior to the reporting module reporting the location information of the terminal to the core network.

32. (Previously Presented) The network controller of claim 31, wherein the core network is configured to determine the terminal location and the access network includes a drift network controller configured to maintain a connection with the terminal,

wherein the network controller is configured to act, at least temporarily, as a serving network controller of the terminal in the access network, and to report the terminal location to the core network, and

wherein the network controller is configured to receive location information from the drift network controller and to report the location information to the core network for determining the terminal location.

33. (New) The network controller of claim 31, further comprising means for terminating a number of connection-oriented connections with the terminal and for reporting a real or correct location of the terminal to the core network in response to terminating a last connection-oriented connection with the terminal.

34. (New) The network controller of claim 32, wherein the terminal has an active set including the terminal location when the location of the terminal exists and is controlled by the serving network controller.

35. (New) The network controller of claim 34, wherein the location information indicates a virtual location when the active set of the terminal excludes a location controlled by the serving network controller.

36. (New) The network controller of claim 34, wherein the location information indicates a current terminal location controlled by the serving network controller and the active set of the terminal includes the current terminal location.

37. (New) The network controller of claim 34, wherein the location information indicates a terminal location which is at least partially controlled by the serving network controller.

38. (New) The network controller of claim 31, further comprising means for receiving location information using the terminal, wherein the location information indicates a terminal location from which the terminal last received location information.

39. (New) The network controller of claim 32, wherein the location information indicates a terminal location controlled by the drift network controller and the active set excludes a location controlled by the serving network controller.

B/ 40. (New) The network controller of claim 31, wherein the location information indicates at least one cell identifier, a routing area identifier or a location area identifier.

41. (New) The network controller of claim 31, wherein the first set of criteria comprises a change of the terminal location, activation of a Packet Data Protocol context for the terminal and expiry of a recurring period of time.

42. (New) The network controller of claim 31, wherein the serving and the drift network controllers are associated with a first and a second switching element, respectively, each of the first and second switching elements being configured to maintain subscription information related to the terminal; and the first switching element being configured to receive location information and to send location information to the second switching element without a separate request.

43. (New) The network controller of claim 42, wherein the location information comprises at least a Packet Data Protocol of the terminal, a Mobility Management context, a Packet Data Protocol of the terminal and a Mobility Management context.

44. (New) The network controller of claim 42, wherein the first and the second switching elements are a support node, a switching center or a support node and a switching center.

45. (New) The network controller of claim 44, wherein the support node is a substantially serving General Packet Radio Service support node and the switching center is a Mobile services Switching Center.

46. (New) The network controller of claim 31, wherein the terminal is a mobile station, the access network is a radio access network and the network controller is a radio network controller.
